

Docket No. AUS920010954US1

# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

## APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DELAYED ANSWERING OF MOBILE TELEPHONES

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10 An apparatus and method for delayed answering of  
calls directed to mobile telephones are provided. With  
the apparatus and method, a mobile telephone may be set  
to a delayed answering mode which provides a brief delay  
between answering of the call and actual conversation by  
the called party. That is, the call may be answered, but  
the attention of the called party is not required until  
the elapse of a particular delay period. This delay  
period allows the called party to gracefully discontinue  
15 current involvement that is requiring the attention of  
the called party so that the called party's attention can  
then be provided to the calling party. The delayed  
answering mode may be entered in any of a number of  
different ways. For example, the mobile telephone may be  
20 set to a delayed answering mode in response to a setting  
directed by the user of the mobile telephone, based on an  
identification of a calling party, based on a schedule of  
events, based on a physical location of the user of the  
mobile telephone, and the like.

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